

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APRIL 25, 2011

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, April 25, 2011 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Deborah Adams, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Commissioner Tom Barnes called the meeting to order, Ken Masters made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2011 meeting as presented. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMA

Mike Ooley, EMA Director, addressed the commissioners regarding purchasing flood gates for county road areas of rushing water. Ooley shared photos of flood gates located in Owen County and provided a cost estimate of \$2,000.00 for material on five (5) sets of gates. Ooley shared that both the Highway and Sheriff departments support the installation of the flood gates.

Ooley explained that he planned to utilize the \$1,000.00 contribution received from Duke Energy towards the purchasing of the flood gates. County highway personnel will fabricate the flood gates. Ken Masters shared that he feared a law suit if the county did not do something. Masters made the motion to move forward and purchase flood gates for the road areas that have rushing water. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

County Attorney Leigh Morning had several questions for the commissioners regarding the overall process. Tom Barnes explained that an Ordinance would be prepared; Committee organized; and then Implementation.

Ken Masters made the motion for Leigh Morning to create an ordinance to address the flood waters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee members are: Sheriff Jeff Sherwood, EMA Director Mike Ooley, Surveyor Marvin Rees, Commissioner Tom Barnes and County Attorney Leigh Morning.

The commissioners asked the media for their assistance to getting the word to the public, advising them to not drive in high water that is across county roads.

Ooley reported that inmates filled 500 sand bags. Ooley also reported that Hodges Branch is currently unable to handle the flooding waters. Ooley reported that Betty Tolliver is now assisting the EMA Department part-time through the National Able Network.

Ooley informed the commissioners that there were twenty-five (25) tornadoes in the state last week. Ooley noted the county is one stop away from a disaster.

NATIONAL ABLE NETWORK

Ron Tolliver of the National Able Network informed the commissioners that there is currently a hiring freeze. Tolliver explained that until the Federal funding is found they will be looking at a possible 40% budget cuts. Applications will continue to be accepted.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Marge Amos, Nurse Supervisor, appeared before the commissioners to discuss the Preparedness Plan for the Health Department. Amos asked the commissioners to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the county to provide manpower and equipment in case of emergency.

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RIDE RUSH

Wanda Henderson, Executive Director of Senior Center, came before the commissioners seeking their signatures on the quarterly INDOT reports for "Ride Rush". Henderson informed the commissioners that INDOT is now requiring original signatures. Ken Masters made the motion to sign the quarterly reports. Marvin Cole seconded the report. Motion carried.

Tom Barnes asked Henderson when she brought the next quarterly report to be signed that the commissioners would also like to receive a financial report on "Ride Rush". Henderson asked Barnes if the county commissioners would be giving more money to the program. Barnes said no.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Kim Linkel and Stephanie Holman appeared before the commissioners on behalf of One Community One Family. Linkel and Holman explained the community outreach that is done in Rush County. The central office is located in Batesville.

Ken Masters made the motion to sign a proclamation making May 2011 Mental Health Awareness Month. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Linkel and Holman were encouraged to contact Sue Otte and get information on 211. They can also place information on the county website.

LUNCH-N-LEARN

Bill Todd questioned the status with the Lunch-N-Learn. Jerry Sitton explained that there was a conflict with the scheduled for Wednesday April 13, 2011 as US Senator Dan Coats was in town and had usage of the assembly room. Sitton also explained that there was a mix up in

the e-mails to Deborah Adams. Kristie Amos did explain that Wednesday is not a good day for courthouse staff.

SHERIFF

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported thirty-seven (37) inmates incarcerated in the Rush County jail. Sherwood reported on jail roof leaking issues. Sherwood reported that some repair had already been made, yet a few issues still existed. Sherwood reported that the roof air conditioner cover is cracked and needs replaced.

Sherwood asked the commissioners to sign off on the titles of the two traded in 2007 Ford Explorer and the 2007 Ford Crown Vic. Marvin Cole made the motion to sign the titles. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sherwood informed the commissioners that the jail inspection has been scheduled for Thursday, May 26, 2011.

COUNTY EXTENSION

Kristie Amos, Purdue Extension Educator, shared Flood Recovery publications that are printed by Purdue with the commissioners and others present.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, informed the commissioners that INDOT requires a ROW (Right of Way) letter for Phase III of the Carthage Pike project (Assurance Designation/0710548). Ken Masters made the motion to sign the ROW letter. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

Deborah Adams, Auditor, received approval of payroll claims for the period ending April 29, 2011 on a motion by Marvin Cole. Seconded by Ken Masters. Motion Carried. Bi-Weekly claims for the period ending April 19, 2011 were approved on a motion by Marvin Cole. Seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried.

Adams received approval of a Surety Bond for Circuit Court employee Tammy Justice on a motion by Ken Masters. Seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.

Adams reported that the county had received their State Board of Accounts exit review April 20, 2011 and No state findings were found. Tom Barnes did commend Adams and her office on the audit review Barnes noted that the State Board of Accounts spoke highly of the offices that they audited.

Adams did explain that there was a Federal finding regarding the OCRA grant. Tom Barnes explained that the county was unaware that we should have advertised for the grant

administrator position. Adams finished by stating that a Corrective Action Plan was created. Tom Barnes and Mike Ooley both signed the Corrective Action Plan and it was accepted by the State Board of Accounts.

Adams updated the commissioners regarding the administrating of the OCRA Grant. Adams reported that this was discussed during the April 20, 2011 Council meeting. Adams explained that the council had instructed her to advertise the remaining \$44,578.78 OCRA fund balance as an additional appropriation. The council will give this consideration of approval during their May Council meeting. Adams explained that the council has charged the commissioners with the responsibility to determine a fair and equitable way to distribute the remaining monies.

The question was raised if strings or definitions could be attached to the contributions to the volunteer units. Adams referred the question to Leigh Morning to answer. Morning answered that yes, strings and definitions can be given.

Tom Barnes asked Jeff Sherwood to sit down with Mike Ooley and to prepare a list of Volunteer units by the next commissioners meeting. Ken Masters made the motion to take the matter under advisement until the next meeting. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried. The committee to determine the disbursement is Ken Masters, Jeff Sherwood and Mike Ooley

Adams informed the commissioners that two (2) tort claims had been received and copies have been forwarded to the appropriate locations.

Adams questioned the commissioners regarding the proposed certificate sale. Adams explained that the legal notice has a deadline of noon to still go with the proposed June 13, 2011 Date. Adams questioned that there has been conversation of possibly adding or removing a property. She asked for direction on how to continue. After further discussion Ken Masters made the motion to set an alternate date for a commissioner's certificate sale due to the possible addition of a city property. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COURTHOUSE

Tom Barnes shared that a letter had been received from Steve, Cindy and Ross Sickbert sharing their concerns of the broken curb pieces in the handicap area of the south side of the courthouse. Barnes noted that the wheel chair/handicap ramp does not have handrails to be OSHA compliant.

Barnes discussed that two quotes were received regarding the north steps of the courthouse. The first quote (19,600.00) was received from D.O. Corn, out of Rushville, included the repair of the broken sidewalk handicap ramp area and installation of the hand rail.

The second quote (\$19,256.00) was from Flaspohler Concrete located out of Greensburg. It was only for the replacement of the north steps. The commissioners discussed that they wanted to keep the business local. Ken Masters made the motion to approve the \$19,600.00 quote submitted by D.O. Corn. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I-T

Randy Herbert, I-T Technician, submitted a report to the commissioners briefing them on his activities. Herbert was not available to attend the meeting.

- Part of the E-911 Grant money has been submitted to Barry Ritter and Indigital for reimbursement. Money should arrive back into the E-911 funds
- Hancock Telecomm has begun their installation to hook up to the courthouse fiber. They should be completed within a month
- Services requested for ECDC have been completed with the exception of hookup to the current fiber. This hookup should be completed over the next two months.
- Met with WTH to assist Bill Todd in creating 911 addresses correctly. WTH recommended updating the current software on Bill Todd's GPS Laptop. Training and support on this new software will be at no charge. Bill has the money in his budget to cover the Editor License.

COMMON CONSTRUCTION WAGE BOARD

Leigh Morning informed the commissioners that John Worth has informed her of the School doing a construction project that will require the creating of a Common Construction Wage Board. Morning reported that the council appointed Denny Corn during their April meeting. Morning provided the commissioners with a short list of names. Ken Masters made the motion to appoint John Pavey if he will accept the appointment. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried. The commissioners asked Deborah Adams to contact Pavey to confirm his acceptance.

HEALTHY BUCKS AGREEMENT

Leigh Morning reported that she along with the Insurance committee has reviewed the Healthy Bucks Agreement between Rush Memorial Hospital, APEX and Rush County Employees. Ken Masters made the motion to sign the agreement. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

GLENWOOD ABANDONED HOUSES

Leigh Morning updated the commissioners that letters had been sent to the landowners. Morning also reported that Mr. Redd will be tearing down his house during June and July. The Frye property owner is in the nursing home. Fry does not still reside at the abandoned property. Morning received a letter from Carroll Mitchell who lives in Connersville. Morning explained that this is where the problem is and Mr. Mitchell does not seem to understand it. Morning was advised to contact the Glenwood Town Board.

SMITH COUNTRY ACRES

Discussion was held over the results of the meeting attended by Leigh Morning, Tom Barnes, members of the Smith family along with their attorney Ron Wilson regarding the acceptance of the roads for the Smith Country Acres Subdivision located off of Airport road. Ken Masters made the motion to accept the roads to the Smith Addition as described in the deed of dedication dated 1995. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried. Frank Denzler questioned if the county is responsible to bring the road up to code. Jerry Sitton responded that the road needs shoulders but there are no highway funds. Sitton finished by saying that the county has no choice but to accept it as is.

COUNTY ROADS

Marvin Cole reported that he has received a complaint from bus drivers not being able to see when turning on county roads due to corn crops being planted so close to the road way. Ken Masters raised the question since this was a safety issue, to possibly through an ordinance ask the farmers to not plant within twenty feet (20') of a stop sign. Tom Barnes spoke that he was not inclined to tell any man what or how he will plant his field. No action was taken.

The Commissioners discussed the pot holes, reports, photo's shared of roads and some damaged vehicles throughout the county. Jerry Sitton informed the commissioners that the roads will only get worse due to all of the rain received. Sitton reported that 5,000 gallon of oil has already been used on the county roads thus far.

MILROY AMBULANCE

The question was raised as to the current location of the Milroy ambulance. Tom Barnes responded that the commissioners are not kept informed. Barnes continued to share that the ambulance was tax free, is no longer funded by the county, and the commissioners do not know where the ambulance is currently located. The commissioners suggested that this should be investigated.

Barnes stated he would go on record saying that, "This is borderline criminal, the situation that is happening".

MISC.

- Reviewed Treasurer's Monthly report for the month ending March 31, 2011
- Reviewed EMS run reports received from Rush Memorial Ambulance; Raleigh Fire Dept; Carthage Fire Dept; Anderson Fire Dept
- Census form – Tom Barnes will instruct Bill Todd to complete online

Motion to adjourn was received from Ken Masters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/s/Tom Barnes
Tom Barnes, Chairman

/s/Marvin Cole
Marvin Cole

/s/Ken Masters
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/Deborah C. Adams
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor